

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 PM-05 EA-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
INRE-00 DODE-00 ICAE-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 AID-05 ACDA-12  
/088 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:MCEATON:JZ

APPROVED BY AF:WCHARROP

AF/C:WSWING

IO/UNP:TNILES

PM/SAS:CCECIL

EA/AFN:JBISHOP

AF/W:TWMSMITH

-----022341 050118Z /62

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 114567

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PEPR, CD, US

SUBJECT:AMBASSADOR'S POSSIBLE MEETING WITH CHADIAN  
PRESIDENT MALLOUM

REFS: (A) STATE 87468, (B) LIBREVILLE 1049, (C) STATE  
105662

1. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT MEETING WITH CHADIAN  
PRESIDENT MALLOUM WOULD BE USEFUL AT THIS TIME. HIGH LEVEL  
MEETINGS WITH GOC OFFICIALS IN THE PAST HAVE INVARIABLY  
RESULTED IN RAISING CHADIAN EXPECTATIONS ABOUT WHAT U.S.  
COULD DO FOR CHAD. WHILE WE WISH TO BE HELPFUL TO CHADIANS  
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ON DIPLOMATIC OVERTURES ESPECIALLY THROUGH THE OAU, CHAD'S  
REQUEST FOR U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE IS DEAD ISSUE. REF A  
WHICH CONVEYED THIS DECISION TO THE CHADIANS IS BEING  
REPEATED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

2. GIVEN THE URGENCY BONGO APPARENTLY ATTACHES TO A  
RESPONSE FROM CARTER ON HIS CHADIAN APPEAL, YOU SHOULD

DELIVER TEXT OF LETTER (REF C) ASAP. FOLLOWING SUPPLEMENTAL TALKING POINTS MAY BE USED IN YOUR MEETING WITH BONGO. IF BONGO PERSISTS IN EFFORTS TO ARRANGE MEETING WITH MALLOUM, THEY MAY BE USED AS GUIDANCE FOR THAT MEETING ALSO.

3. WE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION IN CHAD. IT IS CLEAR THAT RECENT REBEL SUCCESSES COULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT SUBSTANTIAL LIBYAN SUPPORT.

4. U.S. MILITARY GRANT ASSISTANCE IS NOT POSSIBLE BECAUSE IT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S. CONGRESS. HOWEVER, CHAD WAS MADE ELIGIBLE FOR FMS LAST SEPTEMBER, AND COULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A SALES PROGRAM IF IT COULD FIND FINANCING. WE REGRET THAT CHAD HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND OTHER COUNTRIES WILLING TO TRANSFER U.S.-ORIGIN EQUIPMENT TO CHAD. WE WOULD AGREE TO REASONABLE REQUESTS TO TRANSFER SUCH EQUIPMENT, IF CHAD COULD LOCATE A THIRD-COUNTRY DONOR.

5. THE SITUATION CALLS FOR A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION, EITHER INTERNALLY, BILATERALLY, THROUGH THE OAU OR THROUGH THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL. IF CHAD DECIDES TO WORK THROUGH THE OAU OR UNSC, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT CHAD GARNER SYMPATHETIC AFRICAN SUPPORT. (FYI. CHAD WAS UNABLE TO MUSTER SIGNIFICANT AFRICAN SUPPORT WHEN IT PRESENTED ITS CASE TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL LAST FEBRUARY.)

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6. LIBYA MAY ATTEMPT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CHAD'S WEAK MILITARY POSITION TO PROMOTE ITS CLAIMS ON CHADIAN TERRITORY. WE BELIEVE THAT ANY BILATERAL SOLUTION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES OUTSIDE OF THE OAU FRAMEWORK WOULD END BADLY FOR CHAD. WE ENCOURAGE A REACTIVATION OF THE OAU COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS WHICH WAS CREATED LAST YEAR TO DEAL WITH THE CHAD-LIBYA BORDER QUESTION.

7. WE SUPPORT THE SEARCH FOR NEGOTIATED SOLUTIONS AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE CHADIAN GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF RECONCILIATION WITH THE REBELS.

8. ONLY IF ASKED: THE U.S. WILL NOT AGREE TO REPLACE IN GABONESE INVENTORY ANY EQUIPMENT TRANSFERRED TO CHAD. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, AMBASSADORS, MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 may 1978  
**Decapton Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Markings:**  
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